

**WESTON  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**

# THE BEAMS



March 25  
2020

## Calendar

### **Sunday, March 29**

10:30 am Worship—Virtual  
12:30-2 pm Discernment—ZOOM

### **Tuesday, March 31**

6:30-8 pm Lenten Study “The Walk”  
Chapter 5 - ZOOM

### **Sunday, April 5-PALM SUNDAY**

10:30 Palm Sunday Service— Virtual

### **Thursday, April 9**

7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service

### **Sunday, April 12—EASTER**

6:00 am Sunrise Service  
10:30 am Easter Service

**We invite you to email your personal prayer concerns to the church office by Friday morning so that they can be lifted up in worship. (Note: no names will be read online; please let the office know if you would like the name to appear in The Beams for prayer.)**

### **Please Keep in Your Prayers**

Bill B., Gail M. Taj M, Inge V. Louise R., Marilyn C., Fran K., Gail D., family of Beverly Boudreau, and the family of Arthur Mack.

### **UMC churches in Central Massachusetts:**

Federated, Ayer: Hannelore Nalesnik  
Aldersgate, Chelmsford: Lisa J. Bruget-Cass  
W. Chelmsford, Chelmsford: A. Mack Hagins

### **Members of the Open Spirit Task force:**

Rebecca Girrell  
Marcelo Gomes  
Wayne Griffeth-Hurst

## **Discernment Session #4**

**Sunday, March 29**

**12:30 pm via ZOOM**

Please join us for Discernment Session #4 on Sunday, March 29 at 12:30 pm via ZOOM. The topic of this session - “An Intersectional Analysis of Oppression and Liberation within our Church and World.” We will discuss how have LGBTQ people, People of Color, women, disabled people, people who are poor, and other marginalized groups of people been oppressed within our church and by other social forces, and how is understanding and resisting such oppression related to the good news of Jesus Christ?  
<https://zoom.us/j/194226699?pwd=d2tRazZVW0vVjRHMnZlejBFbi9kQT09>

We hope you will join us!

## **Prayer for Discernment**

(Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus)

God of All, you have a plan for each one of us, you hold out to us a future full of hope. Give us the wisdom of Your Spirit so that we can see the shape of your plan in the gifts you have given us, and in the circumstances of our daily lives. Give us the freedom of your Spirit, to seek you with all our hearts, and to choose your will above all else. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“Once you choose hope,  
anything’s possible.”

— Christopher Reeve



# ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Thoughts from the Pastor's Desk:

Dearly beloved, an update for you:

I want to make an apology to you for the fact that technical issues got in our way this week as we tried to create a smooth online worship service. As a result, the service is available on our Facebook page (at <https://www.facebook.com/pat.machugh/videos/10156644213921986>), but we have so far been unable to download it from there in order to upload it to the YouTube channel connected to our webpage. Hopefully these technical difficulties will be worked out, and we will be able to livestream from YouTube directly this Sunday. As soon as we have that confirmed, we will put out information on the process to get connected so that you can watch it live at 10:30 Sunday morning.

Other information:

The church qualifies as an "essential service," but with all the restrictions happening around us, in order to ensure the best conditions to reduce the spread of this virus, we intend to reduce the traffic at the church as much as possible, at least until April 7<sup>th</sup>. As of this week, the church's Administrative Assistant Carol is working from home, and Pastor Pat will also be working at home most of the time. We will answer phone messages at the church at least every day or two, and we will respond to email messages daily. If you have an urgent need, you may call the pastor on her cell phone, or email her directly.

We are all encouraged to follow CDC and government directions during this time. The Governor of Massachusetts has ordered all non-essential businesses to close their physical workplaces and facilities to workers, customers and the public effective March 24<sup>th</sup>, has issued a stay-at-home advisory for all persons<sup>1</sup>, and has limited gatherings to no more than 10 people.

Online worship is taking place on Sundays at 10:30, and the recording is saved online so that you can participate at your own convenience. Worship will be online for at least the next 2 Sundays (March 29, April 5), at which time we will evaluate the benefits of continuing to do so. If you have an opinion about that, Pastor Pat would welcome your email comments.

Until things change, we will continue to broadcast the Sunday worship services from the sanctuary, with a bare-bones number of essential people involved, while maintaining the recommended minimum 6' distance from one another and taking all necessary precautions.

The next scheduled Discernment Session<sup>2</sup> will be held this Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30-2:00, via ZOOM<sup>2</sup>, with the Rev. Will Green from Peaks Island UMC joining us to provide leadership.

Meetings and Bible studies are being held via ZOOM. If you need a ZOOM link to join in, please contact Pastor Pat and she can forward it to you. And if you are uncertain how to use ZOOM, Pastor Pat is very willing to work with you ahead of time to practice getting connected.

Caring – there are volunteers willing to help persons who need assistance with getting groceries or running essential errands. If you need help or know someone who does, please contact the church office or Pastor Pat.

Giving – A reminder that offerings can be mailed to the church at 377 North Ave., Weston, MA 02493, sent via Bill Pay or ACH on your online banking, or there is an online Paypal option on our website for those who prefer online giving.

Please remember to keep in touch with one another. Call, email, send a card. Those who most need to know that they are not alone are most at risk and generally unable to have visitors. Remember persons in nursing homes, rehab centers, hospitals. Keep them in mind, and let them know that they are not forgotten.

And PRAY: Keep those who are unexpectedly temporarily unemployed in your prayers, and all those who are in need. Pray with gratitude for the many first responders and medical personnel who are working tirelessly to care for people in this pandemic. Please pray that this virus will pass, and do whatever you can to be of help to those who are most vulnerable.

And finally, know that YOU are in my prayers. We may be unable to share a hug or a handshake, and we may not be able to be in the same space, but we are always connected by heart.

Pastor Pat

*(Continued on next page.....)*

# ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Thoughts from the Pastor's Desk: (*cont'd.*)

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<sup>1</sup> from Mass.gov: "Due to evolving spread of COVID-19 in Massachusetts, Governor Baker has directed the Department of Public Health to issue a stay at home advisory outlining self-isolation and social distancing protocols. Residents are advised to stay home and avoid unnecessary travel and other unnecessary activities during this two-week time period. Residents over 70 years of age or with underlying health conditions, who are considered at high risk when exposed to COVID-19, should limit social interactions with other people as much as possible.

"The Baker-Polito Administration Order also limits gatherings to 10 people during the state of emergency, a reduction from the 25 person limit established in an earlier order. This includes community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based events, and any similar event or activity that brings together more than 10 persons in any confined indoor or outdoor space."

<sup>2</sup> Pat MacHugh is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Discernment Session # 4

Guest leader Rev. Will Green: An Intersectional Analysis of Oppression and Liberation within our Church and World (How have LGBTQ people, People of Color, women, disabled people, people who are poor, and other marginalized groups of people been oppressed within our church and by other social forces? How is understanding and resisting such oppression related to the good news of Jesus Christ?)

Time: Mar 29, 2020 12:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/194226699?pwd=d2tRazZVWW0vVjRHMnZlejBFbi9kQT09>

Meeting ID: 194 226 699

Password: 377770

Or dial in on the phone, based on your location:

+1 929 205 6099 (locally)

Meeting ID: 194 226 699

To find **your** local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aqslNwZZE>

## DO YOU KNOW UMCOR?

UMCOR stands for United Methodist Committee on Relief and will be the focal point of a Special Sunday Service and a special offering, when we are able to worship together in person again. When watching disaster unfold around the globe, many of us feel the call to help but are at a loss as to what we can actually do to help. UMCOR Sunday is the day for congregations around the globe to help. UMCOR offers aid in Jesus' name to those who suffer:

- When tornadoes ripped through Oklahoma, we responded.
- When children in Zimbabwe lost parents to AIDS, we responded.
- When a massive tsunami devastated lives in Japan, we responded.

And when the next crisis occurs, we will be prepared to respond. On this Special Sunday, our generosity as a church covers the operating budget of UMCOR. This allows them to funnel 100% of other donations received throughout the year directly to relief efforts. UMCOR Sunday is where we come together to help. If you want to learn more about UMCOR visit: [www.umcsgiving.org/UMCOR](http://www.umcsgiving.org/UMCOR)

***There will be a special UMCOR offering on the first Sunday we are together again after Easter.***



UNITED METHODIST  
**SPECIAL  
SUNDAY**  
PLEASE GIVE  
GENEROUSLY

# UMCOR SUNDAY

(Formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

Through your generous gift today, you share  
the goodness of life with those who hurt.

UMCOR SPECIALIZES IN SOLUTIONS THAT HELP  
PEOPLE BECOME SELF-RELIANT

UMCOR  
Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

Please make check payable to your local church or give online at [UMCsgiving.org/giveUMCOR](http://UMCsgiving.org/giveUMCOR)

# ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Lenten Study March 3—April 7

Lenten Study Tuesdays at  
7:00 pm via ZOOM

### ***THE WALK by Adam Hamilton - 3/31 Chapter 5***

How do we walk with Christ—daily follow him, grow in him, and faithfully serve him? We will join Adam Hamilton this Lent in this six-week study, The Walk. In each chapter, Hamilton's engaging teaching style will help you deepen your walk with Christ as we explore five essential practices rooted in Jesus' own walk with God: worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith. Each is intended to be a part of our daily walk with Christ. We will learn about its New Testament foundation, and its potential effect on our personal lives and our lives together as the church.

"I wrote this book to be a simple guide for the Christian life, written for ordinary people whose faith is sometimes messy. It is written for those who wish to follow Jesus, to experience more of God in their lives, and to grow to become the people God wants them to be." – Adam Hamilton

**Admin Assistant:** Carol Knell

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/609185052?pwd=VlJpbURybIp4LlFndWZzQTNxMXZjdz09>

Meeting ID: 609 185 052

Password: 641448



**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Pat MacHugh  
cell phone: 207-951-0529,  
email [revdocpat@gmail.com](mailto:revdocpat@gmail.com)  
**Music director:** Hyo Choon Lee  
**Custodian:** Diane Olsen

**Office Hours:**  
2-5:30 pm - Tuesday/Thursday  
8-11:30 am Wednesday/Friday

**TO KNOW JESUS CHRIST AND  
TO MAKE JESUS CHRIST**

**We're on the  
web!  
Check it out**

*Find a sermon to hear at your own leisure.  
Go to our website and look under the sermon  
tab.  
website: [www.westonunitedmethodist.org](http://www.westonunitedmethodist.org)*

*Like us on Facebook:  
Facebook: [@westonunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.facebook.com/westonunitedmethodistchurch)*

*Please use the Sign up Genius link for opportu-  
nities to serve:  
[https://www.signupgenius.com/  
go/8050B4BA5AD2CABFD0-volunteer1](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050B4BA5AD2CABFD0-volunteer1)*

# JOIN US



## Love. Grow. Serve.

### *A heart-warming story...*

Because they happened to be in the right place at the right time, Carole and Joe Kerr were given a quantity of fresh perishable food from Joseph's Two in Waltham for the church to distribute, and we immediately began looking for ways to share it with those who are in need. Some was shared with members of the church family, some was made available to the homeless, and some is being given to food banks. A huge thank you to all those who offered to help distribute the food, and to all those who helped to find places to share it.

*Please send in your stories of ways that you have seen God at work in and through the people you know of during this extraordinary crisis.*

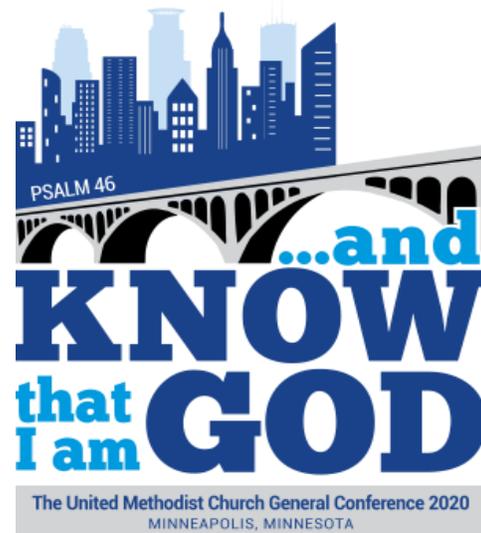


### Postponed

General Conference will be postponed and will not occur May 5-15, 2020 as planned, out of concerns for the health and safety of all concerned amid the coronavirus pandemic. "This news is not unexpected based on the current guidance from health officials and we expect to move forward with new plans as quickly as possible," said Kim Simpson, chair of the Commission of the General Conference.

#### *About General Conference*

*General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church, which meets once every four years. The conference can revise church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for church-wide programs.*



**Tue, May 5 – Fri, May 15, 2020**